

February 24, 2011

Governor Rick Snyder
House Speaker Jase Bolger
Majority Leader Randy Richardville
House Minority Leader Richard Hammel
Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer

We are writing today to urgently call on the Michigan Legislature to modernize the state's outdated Michigan Telecommunications Act (MTA), this session, in an effort to spur economic growth and investment for Michigan.

While new technology has changed how we live, it has most fundamentally changed how people communicate with one another. As consumers and businesses have moved on to highly competitive wireless and broadband technologies, other states have updated their telecommunications laws to reflect this new world—and to pave the way for more job creation and economic growth.

Six years ago, the Michigan Legislature took an important first step and updated parts of the MTA. Lawmakers recognized then that updates were long overdue and desperately needed. Their work made Michigan's law one of the nation's most progressive and led to large capital investment in Michigan.

Six years later, our neighboring states are catching up. As you know, Michigan is in a race for jobs and investment. Recent regulatory updates in Illinois and Ohio have helped those states catch up to Michigan, while reforms made in Indiana have passed Michigan by. To keep pace and pull ahead for the future, Michigan desperately needs to update our telecommunications law.

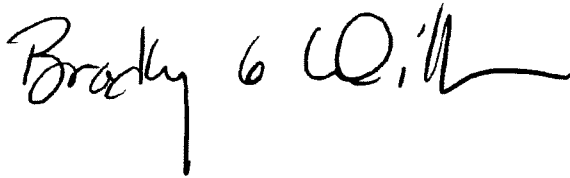
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Today, 20th century regulations are standing in the way of 21st century jobs and technology. You have an opportunity to *reinvent Michigan*, clearing these roadblocks to investment and innovation. And, in a difficult budget year, this is a policy change that does not require spending one additional tax dollar or creating one new tax incentive.

We urge you to modernize the state's telecommunications law this year and move Michigan back ahead of the competition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brad" and last name "Williams" clearly legible.

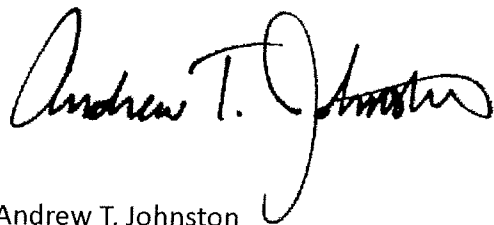
Brad Williams
Director of Government Relations
Detroit Regional Chamber

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. Holcomb". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name "James" and last name "Holcomb" clearly legible.

James Holcomb
Senior Vice President and Associate
General Counsel
Michigan Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristin Beltzer". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name "Kristin" and last name "Beltzer" clearly legible.

Kristin Beltzer
Senior Vice President
Gov. Relations and Public Affairs
Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew T. Johnston". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name "Andrew" and last name "Johnston" clearly legible.

Andrew T. Johnston
Director of Legislative Affairs
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce